



Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Minister

Ministere des
Richesses
naturelles

Ministre

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96-00862-MIN

Ms Sarah Miller
Chair
Sustainable Water Resources Taskforce
Great Lakes United
c/o Canadian Environmental Law Association
517 College Street, Suite 401
Toronto, Ontario
M6G 4A2

Dear Ms Miller:

Thank you for your letter of February 26, 1996, which was also addressed to the Honourable Al Leach and the Honourable Brenda Elliott, regarding the proposal by York Region to consider accessing Georgian Bay for a domestic water supply.

As you point out, this major initiative demonstrates the importance that all citizens place on a viable potable water supply and the complexity that this resource issue can and will take on in the future as demands change and increase.

The Ministry of Natural Resources continues to support a policy of water conservation, and has a strategy and education initiative to deliver this message to the public.

However, conservation alone will not suffice to address projected supply demand issues. Other options must be considered, including further study of the Oak Ridges Moraine aquifers. As you note, the nature and scope of York Region's proposal ensure that it will be subject to intensive examination.

Your group and other knowledgeable public interest organizations can assist in bringing about a wider understanding of this issue by participating actively in the review process.

Municipal
water
FILE

Again, thank you for bringing your concerns to our Government's attention.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris Hodgson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Hon. Chris Hodgson
Minister of Natural Resources, and
Northern Development & Mines

cc: Honourable Brenda Elliott, MPP
Guelph

Honourable Al Leach
St. George-St. David